For Immediate Release March 7, 2007 (201) 222-2828

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Albio Sires issued the following statement in support of International Women's Day and House Resolution 149.

Contact: Olga Alvarez

"On International Women's Day, we must honor the contributions of women in today's society and continue to the fight for their equality around the world.

"I was proud to be part of history the day Nancy Pelosi was sworn-in as the first woman Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. Recently the international community has witnessed Chile elect its first female President, Michele Bachelet. The African continent will certainly benefit from Liberian President, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, and the Germans elected Angela Merkel as their first woman Chancellor. We must continue to stand up for women around the world who fight everyday to make a difference and also to advocate on behalf of those women who are still suffering as victims of violence, abuse, and oppression.

"By supporting House Resolution 149, we are reaffirming our commitment to the advancement of women around the globe. We must end violence against women, protect their human rights, and celebrate the valuable contributions they have made in our country and the international community."